Please amend the claims as follows:

1-37 (canceled)

--38. (currently amended) A process for preparing an amyloid fibril, which process comprises:

preparing a solution comprising a protein, said solution being in a state so that nucleation and fibril growth will occur ~~over an acceptable time~~, and

allowing nucleation and fibril growth to take place;

wherein a non-naturally occurring amyloid fibril is prepared by said process.

39. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the solution further comprises an alcohol.

40. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the solution further comprises alcohol selected from methanol, ethanol, propanol, butanol, trifluoroethanol and hexafluoroisopropanol.

41. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the solution further comprises acetonitrile.

42. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the solution further comprises urea.

43. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the concentration of protein in the solution is from 0.1 mM to 10 mM.

44. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the temperature of the solution is from 0°C to 100°C.

45. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the solution is acidic.

46. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the pH of the solution is from 0.5 to 6.5.

47. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the solution is seeded with previously formed particles of protein.

48. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the non-naturally occurring amyloid fibril prepared by said process comprises a pharmaceutically active compound.

49. (original) A process according to claim 38 wherein the non-naturally occurring amyloid fibril prepared by said process comprises a metal.

50. (original) A process according to claim 49 wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of copper, silver and gold.

51-53 (canceled)

54. (new) A process according to claim 38, wherein said solution is treated to denature or partially denature the protein.

55. (new) A process according to claim 54, wherein said denaturing is effected by treatment with an alcohol, aliphatic nitrile or urea, reducing the pH, or by shaking, agitation or exposure to a glass or plastic surface.

56. (new) A process according to claim 38, wherein the solution further comprises an alcohol at 5 to 40% v/v.

57. (new) A process according to claim 38, wherein the solution further comprises an aliphatic nitrile at 5 to 95% v/v.

58. (new) A process according to claim 38, wherein the solution further comprises urea at 4 to 7 M.

59. (new) A process according to claim 38, wherein nucleation is achieved by varying the pH and/or ionic strength of the solution.

60. (new) A process for preparing an amyloid fibril, which process comprises:

preparing a solution comprising a protein, said solution being in a state so that nucleation and fibril growth will occur, wherein the pH of the solution is from 0.5 to 6.5, the temperature of the solution is from 0°C to 100°C, and wherein the solution optionally also comprises an additive selected

from the group consisting of an alcohol at 5 to 40% v/v, an aliphatic nitrile at 5 to 95% v/v and urea at 4 to 7 M; and

allowing nucleation and fibril growth to take place;

wherein a non-naturally occurring amyloid fibril is prepared by said process.